

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GEORGE 01954 181750Z

66

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 AS-01 CU-04 /043 W

----- 063470

R 181720Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2029

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1954

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GY

SUBJECT: SIXTY-THREE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA STUDENTS ARE FIRST
DRAFTEES OF GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE

REF: A) GEORGETOWN A-102 B) GEORGETOWN A-103
C) GEORGETOWN A-113

1. SIXTY-THREE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA STUDENTS ARE FIRST SIZEABLE GROUP DRAFTED IN GUYANA'S NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME, THOUGH A FEW WINNERS OF GOG SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS STUDY LAST YEAR WERE REQUIRED TO DO PRIOR NATIONAL SERVICE. THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO REPORT TO THE INTERIOR NS CAMP AT KIMBIA FOR TRAINING ON NOV 17. STUDENTS WERE MADE AWARE OF GOVT'S EVENTUAL INTENTION TO DRAFT THEM WHEN PM BURNHAM ANNOUNCED IN MAY THE CONDITION OF ONE YEAR OF DUTY IN GNS FOR UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE (REF B). HOWEVER, RECENT PREWS STATEMENTS CONCERNING INABILITY OF THE GNS TO BEGIN MASSIVE DRAFT DUE TO LIMITED FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT ITS CENTERS CONVINCED MOST SSTUDENTS THAT DRAFT WAS NOT IMMINENT. STUDENT PROPOSALS FOR AN ALTERNATIVE GOVT SERFICE WERE IN PROCESS OF BEING PRESENTED TO UNIVERSITY'S VICE CHANCELLOR AT TIME DRAFT NOTICE WAS RECEIVED.

2. MAJOR OPPOSITION TO DRAFT COMES FROM MOSCOW-LINE PEOPLES PRO-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GEORGE 01954 181750Z

GRESSIVE PARTY AND THE EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY, WHO HAVE ACTIVELY

OPPOSED GNS (REF A). THIS COMMUNITY IS ALARMED BY FACT THAT 25 OF THE INDUCTEES ARE WOMEN AND 53 ARE OF EAST INDIAN ORIGIN. EAST INDIANS VIEW THE IMBALANCE BETWEEN RACIAL COMPOSITION OF THE UNIVERSITY (ABOUT HALF EAST INDIAN) AND RACIAL BACKGROUNDS OF THOSE DRAFTED AS A FORM OF DISCRIMINATION.

3. ACCORDING TO PPP'S NEWSPAPER, THE MIRROR, ALL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS HAD TO FILL OUT GNS REGISTRATION CARDS WHILE REGISTERING FOR 1975-76 ACADEMIC YEAR. THEY WERE INFORMED BY GNS REGISTRAR, LT. THORNE, THAT FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE FORMS WOULD RESULT IN "GRAVE CONSEQUENCES". THE DRAFT OF THE FIRST 63 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER ADVANCE WARNING HAS LED OTHER STUDENTS TO REFUSE TO COMPLETE THE FORMS. ACCORDING TO MIRROR, SOME OF DRAFTED STUDENTS WALKED OUT OF NATIONAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS AFTER REPORTING AND ARE AWAITING VOT ACTION ON THEIR REFUSAL TO BE INDUCTED.

4. ACADEMIC BOARD OF UNIVERSITY IS REPORTED TO HAVE MET TO DISCUSS ISSUE, AND ISSUED A STATEMENT OF OBJECTION TO THE ILL-TIMED DRAFT TO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

5. COMMENT. INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE LIST OF DRAFTEES WAS SENT TO CAMPUS A FEW DAYS AFTER PNC WON A MAJORITY OF EXECUTIVE SEATS IN THE U.G. STUDENTS ASSOCIATION ELECTION (REF C). PNC-SUPPORTED STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT LAURIE LEWIS, WHO IS ALSO AN ASSISTANT POLICE COMMISSIONER, IS REPORTED TO BE OUT OF COUNTRY AND UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT ON DRAFT. WITH PNC CONTROLLING BOTH THE ADMINISTRATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS, COMPULSORY DUTY IN NATIONAL SERVICE APPEARS TO BE A NON-NEGOTIABLE ITEM. A STUDENT STRIKE AND/OR REFUSAL OF INDUCTION BY A MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO ARE DRAFTED ARE NOW BEING CONSIDERED AT U.G.
KREBS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSCRIPTION, STUDENTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GEORGE01954
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750401-1081
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751134/aaaabdla.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GEORGETOWN A-102, 75 GEORGETOWN A-103
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIXTY-THREE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA STUDENTS ARE FIRST DRAFTEES OF GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE
TAGS: PINT, MILI, GY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006